

Earth First! Action Update

No.35 JANUARY 1997

30p

'Why participate in the ruin of creation when you can participate in the creation of ruins.'

NEWBURY: THE BATTLE CONTINUES!

COSTAIN EGM'S

Costain Independent Shareholders Association (CISA), launched its 'Crisis at Costain Christmas appeal' on Monday 22nd December for the employees of Costain and its subcontractors (who have most to lose when Costain go into receivership) Santa shook a collecting tin while singers accompanied with carols such as 'O little town of Newbury'. Contributions were surprisingly low. Mince pies were offered to security but were rejected....humbug.

At Costain's December 27th Extraordinary General Meeting, CISA swung into action as the blizzard swept London Arena (capacity 10,000). 'Gather round for the Great Costain Closing Down Sale, proceeds to the Crisis at Costain Christmas Appeal. Everything must go, huge liabilities and tiny assets like you've never seen before!' Costain's US coal interests were represented by a coal bag of hot air.

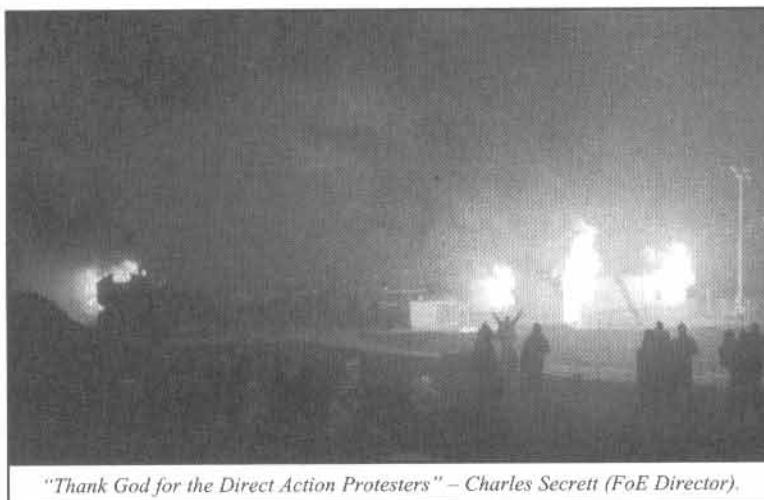
Campaigners gathered again at the second of Costain's EGM's on January 6th, which was more like a farcical pantomime or a rugby match than a formal meeting. People ignored the obvious attempt at intimidation by the presence of 50-60 dark suited security guards and were chanting, shouting and trying to break through the lines of security to storm the stage before the new chairman "shifty" Shaffi had even finished his opening speech. Finally he allowed some questions, all bar one of which concerned the environmental devastation wreaked on the planet by Costain. Two assaults by security on protesters were witnessed, one person suffering concussion. A formal complaint is currently being investigated by the police.

GEORGE YOUNG'S GARDEN

On Wednesday 8th January twenty-five people from Reading Roadbusters, Third Battle of Newbury and Reclaim the Streets converged on the tranquil site of the Transport Minister's, Sir George Young's, country home. (It is in fact one of his three homes). George, also known as the bulldozer, no sorry, bicycling baronet, was sadly not at this particular home on the day, though his two dogs were and seemed glad of the unexpected company.

Banners proclaiming 'Save Newbury's Landscape' and 'Newbury now - where next?' were hung from the roof. A couple of people found a window invitingly open at the Cookham address and filmed a 'through the keyhole', Alan Partridge style! Meanwhile, to the delight of the assembled press, people got busy demonstrating the joys of building a bypass by digging up Young's lawn and spraying a line down the middle of the 'new road'. It was hoped that the action might also help Sir George in making the right decision concerning the Salisbury Bypass, a decision to be taken soon.

The police missed the best bit and arrived just as the turf was being replaced. Later though three vehicles were prevented from leaving and their ten occupants arrested and later charged, with conspiracy to cause criminal damage and actually causing criminal damage. Several were released in the early hours of the morning in the freezing snow, minus their shoes, which were kept as



"Thank God for the Direct Action Protesters" - Charles Secrett (FoE Director).

evidence. Three were held overnight to face ridiculous bail restrictions that mean they cannot protest anywhere in the country! This is to be appealed.

NIGHT ACTIONS

People gathered from Thursday 9th January for the planned days of events. A safe camp site had been set up away from the route and around one hundred and fifty people were around for the Friday mornings actions. In the early hours of Friday morning affinity groups left in transport and made their way to various compounds across

the route. At the Kennet compound people entered through holes that had been cut in the fence, lights were destroyed and a crane occupied for a while until security brought in crash mats and threatened to push people off! Other compounds had similar results. There were a few arrests but most people were released relatively quickly and all was over by early afternoon with people regrouping at the visitors camp for food and music. That night numbers at the map grew dramatically with another hundred or so people arriving from all over the country.

REUNION RAMPAGE

On Saturday 11th around eight hundred to one thousand people turned up throughout the morning and made their way to the compound at Middle Oak where some people dressed the fence with poems, ribbons etc.

People then moved to a nearby field to hear speakers that included Charles Secrett, Director of Friends of the Earth and Jill Eislis from Third Battle. After the speeches the mass of people moved back to the compound. There was no pretence about what people wanted and fences were rapidly pulled over in a number of places, despite the best efforts of the police whose attempts to keep people out included charging horses up and down the fenceline and managing to run on person over, who then had to be taken to hospital. After a large number of people had made it through the fence the police gave up trying to restrict entrance and most of the crowd then entered without incident.

After a massive tree hug around Middle Oak people proceeded to occupy machinery. There were small scuffles with security as people tried to occupy the large crane but after a few minutes security withdrew and people took control of it. People then went on to smash the engine room of the crane up and the windows went shortly after. Tyres on the earthmover were punctured and lights were smashed. A contractors landrover was nearly tipped over and was only saved by the intervention of the police. Shortly after this the police ordered a tactical withdrawal and left everyone to it.

Later on in the evening a tip up truck, portacabin and the crane were set alight. People seemed to think this was a wise time to leave and the mass went to regroup outside the fence and then dispersed into the night in small groups. Several people were arrested over the course of the day, if you were one of them, get in touch with Third Battle to keep them updated on court appearances etc. For this and more general details contact them on: 01635 45544.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Issue 2 of Delta, the publication that covers news on the Ogoni, Shell and Nigeria, is available for £1.00 including postage from: Delta, Box Z, 13 Biddulph Street, Leicester, LE2 1BH. Yearly subscriptions are a minimum of £3.00 for four issues.

There will hopefully be a South East Regional Earth First! Gathering around late March or early April time. More information to follow soon.

There is now an Earth First! Northern Networking Newsletter. For a copy send an SAE and a photocopying donation to: EF! Newsletter, York EF! c/o York LEAF, York Peace Centre, 15a Clifford Street, York. Telephone: 01904 410185 or e mail: soes203@york.ac.uk. There is also to be a second Northern Network gathering in April, if you can help the contact is also York EF!

In London a semi-permanent set of tree walkways has been established for anyone who wants to learn the basics of abseiling, prussicking, and putting up and negotiating rope walkways, without having to venture onto a nasty muddy protest site out in the sticks. Contact London Reclaim The Streets on: 0171 281 4621.

The Autumn issue of the Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group Newsletter is out now. Available for £1.50 from: ALFSG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX.

There is to be a three week Direct Action Tour of Germany this May. It will include chances to exchange skills, hold workshops and join other people in actions. Some of the German activists will be coming back to the UK in June. For more details contact Lune Earth First! on: 01524 849 313.

The Earth First! Action Update has two copies of Voice, a German language Animal Liberation magazine that we cannot read. Anyone that wants them should send an A4 SAE to the Action Update.

The second issue of Corporate Watch magazine is now available for £1.50, including postage, from Corporate Watch, Box E, 111 Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RQ.

Mining company Freeport McMoRan, part owned by the Britain based Rio Tinto Zinc, has avoided an investigation by the World Bank into the running of their gold mine in West Papua by cancelling their World Bank insurance. The original decision to investigate the running of the mine came after resistance from local people. This result reinforces the fact that reliance on State and Corporation bodies to protect people and the environment is only hope misplaced, and the only answer is autonomous resistance and grass roots direct action by the people affected and their allies.

M77 OPENS

On 6th December Scottish Secretary Michael Forsyth came to Glasgow to open the tarmac monstrosity that is the M77. Dreading the possibility of ex-Pollock Free Staters causing a disruption of the opening ceremony the exact location of it was kept secret, even the press didn't know until the last minute.

Despite this setback the road had only been opened a few minutes when six people crossed to the central reservation and formed a pipe-linked human chain intertwined with the central barrier, in front of assembled press, a large police presence and Corderhill (the worst affected community).

After trying and failing to separate the protesters, the police called in the contractors and the central barrier was dismantled. Eventually the protesters were led away, still connected, and with some difficulty they were folded into the waiting police van. All were charged with Breach of the Peace and held for seventy-two hours in Govan Police Station.

The camp at Pollock Free State may have been dismantled, but what remains is a beautiful place where tarmac would have been, a shrine to the love and energy of those who were there.

RUSSLAND BEECHES

The Lake District National Parks Authority (LDNPA) acquired the Russland Beeches in, or before, 1984 "to preserve their amenity value and conserve wildlife", but they now want to fell the lot.

A petition of 3,500 signatures was handed into the LDNPA and an independent report commissioned and paid for by locals, and South Lakeland FoE, found that the majority of the trees are very healthy and say that two hundred years for Beeches is only 'mature' from a timber production point of view. A group of seven tree surgeons have offered to do some sensitive tree surgery work for free if they know that that is all there is a need for.

The LDNPA disagree, their reasons are that the roadside trees are so old and in such bad condition that they are a danger to passing motorists. Locals are awaiting a report from the DoE that could lift Tree Preservation Orders on the Beeches which would give the final clearance for the trees to be felled, but there is still hope that the felling will not go ahead. The special report is expected any day now. If the decision goes against locals wishes there may will be a call out for direct action. Local campaigners have also had police on the phone wanting names of people interested in going up there to help defend trees! They refused. Contact: 01539 563671.

ANTI GE ACTIONS

Throughout December there were numerous actions across Europe against the arrival of Monsanto's genetically modified 'Roundup Ready Soya', as well as Ciba Geigy's Bt Maize that has just been given the go-ahead for importation into Europe by the European Commission.

December 11th saw Greenpeace paying visits to the nine directors of Unilever where they planted huge 'X's' in their gardens. Unilever is Britain's largest food manufacturer and they are refusing to label food containing GE soya here in Britain (although they have assured German consumers that they will have a choice). This was one of dozens of actions by Greenpeace world-wide against Genetic Engineering in the last two months.

The 14th December, the International Day of Action against Genetic Engineering, saw supermarket managers around the country running around panicking as their customers were leafleted about the possible dangers of the GE food that will

be on shelves, unlabelled, any day now. (Soya is present in 60% of all processed food.) Theatrical protests were used by Reclaim The Streets in London and Bath Eco Futures Group, to help bring the message home in both cities.

In Liverpool on 17th December six activists climbed into Cargill's soya processing plant and marked soya filled silos with large 'X's' to warn of contamination.

In their press release they said that Cargill were risking ecological catastrophe and were abusing their control over the market by refusing British consumers the right to choose not to eat genetically manipulated food, and demanded that the company stops the import of Genetically Engineered soya. Cargill hold the monopoly on the production of soy oil and protein in this country. One of Ciba Geigy's compounds in Macclesfield, Cheshire also had a visit, with huge 'X's' being sprayed on their entrance and a message sprayed all down one wall warning of the 'Genetic Hazard Inside'.

Meanwhile in Denmark the offices of Monsanto, owner of the patent on the herbicide 'Roundup' and the company behind the genetically manipulated soya bean of the same name, were occupied for many hours with activists d-locking onto the staircase.

Greenpeace now have available their campaign pack on Genetic Engineering, and it is a must for anyone who would like more information. You can call them on: 0171 865 8100. Manchester Earth First! also have information on upcoming actions and can be contacted on: 0161 224 4846.

If you have information to send out on the above subject, or want receive information on actions and the latest news via e-mail contact rts@gn.apc.org.

MCLIBEL TRIAL ENDS!

After two years of testimony and eight weeks of closing speeches, the final legal arguments in the McLibel Trial were completed on 13th December. All that is left now is the judge's voluminous judgement, which is expected anytime from March 1997.

On the last day of final submissions Mr Justice Bell said: "I will say now that I propose to reserve my judgement. It will take me some time to write it. I don't mean to be difficult when I say I don't know when I will deliver it because I don't know." He denied newspaper reports that his ruling would come at the beginning of 1997 or early 1997, adding: "It will take me longer than that."

The McLibel Campaign is calling for an international 'Victory Day of Action' on the Saturday after the verdict. In the UK, it is hoped that the majority of McDonald's 750 stores will be leafleted on that day. If you live in the UK, please assist in the co-ordinated leafletting on the day of action by adopting your local store. Contact the McLibel Support Campaign for an 'Adopt-a-Store' form to complete on: 0171 713 1269.

SKYE HELICOPTERS

Residents on the Isle of Skye are extremely worried that the tranquillity of one of the most beautiful and tranquil areas on the Islands will be ruined if the latest tourist plans are given approval. Skye Helicopters hope to start sightseeing helicopter flights over the Cuillins.

An application has been made for three helipads in Sligachan, one for tourist flights, one for a mountain rescue helicopter and the other for a bracken spraying helicopter. At full capacity there will be five flights an hour each lasting ten minutes through Easter-September, devastating the peaceful nature that the area is known for.

How to Contact the Earth First! Action Update

By Post: Earth First! Action Update, PO Box 9656, London N4 4JY. By Phone: 0171 561 9146. By E-Mail: actionupdate@gn.apc.org.

Please enclose a SAE for replies, and to subscribe to the free e-mail server send us your details.

Earth First! Website address: <http://www.hrc.wmin.ac.uk/campaigns/earthfirst.html>

NABURN WOODS

Clearance work has started at Naburn Woods, in York in readiness for a huge out of town shopping centre. However, the activity has been sporadic and York EF! have been unfortunate that all the days that they picked to stop work have been times when none was scheduled anyway.

On December 14th a select few activists paid a visit to the developer's (BAA McArthur Glen's) existing shopping centre near Ellesmere Port. People climbed on the roof and explained the issue through a loudhailer to the generally supportive crowd. The rest of the day was spent leafleting and getting thrown out several times by increasingly irate security. Although numbers were small, they did make an impact, especially on shops which may be considering investing in the Naburn Scheme, and some interest has already been shown in returning to do the job properly in the near future. Contact York EF! 01904 410185.

PRESSENMAN WOODS

On the East Coast of Scotland, twenty-five miles from Edinburgh, lies a tiny fragment of the once immense Caledonian forest that covered large areas of Scotland. This piece of 13,000 year old oak woodland is yet another area that has fallen into the hands of the people that put profit before life. John Kinnaird, the local landowner, along with the Forestry Commission, wants to cut around 350 mature oaks to "thin the wood for the enjoyment of future generations".

What they fail to realise is that such an amount of thinning would severely damage the eco-system within the wood and would open the wood to potentially devastating wind damage, never mind the fact that each tree has a Tree Protection Order (TPO) on it.

Once the trees have been cut they are likely to be sold to a German car manufacturer to make dashboard veneers, so it is not hard to see why they are so eager to 'thin the wood'. If there is a big enough number of people opposed to the scheme it is likely that they will back down. A camp has already been set up so come and defend this priceless piece of Scotland. For more details contact: 0131 228 2193 or 01368 850630.

KIRKSTALL DEVELOPMENTS

On the 18th December fifteen Earth First!ers stormed the Headquarters of Morrisson's supermarket in Bradford and occupied the Managing Director's office for one and a half hours. The action was in support of the residents of Kirkstall who are fighting the building of a road, supermarket and petrol station, all of which are to be financed by this supermarket chain.

Originally there was a 'peoples plan' of mixed sustainable use for the site, developed by the local community, put forward - but Central Government didn't like this idea so they proceeded to take the land and give it to one of their Quangos, who then sold it illegally to a development firm.

Leeds Earth First! decided enough was enough and went to pay Mr Morrisson's a visit. Two security guards simply looked on as the EF!ers charged up the stairs to Ken's office. While there they sifted through Xmas cards from such pals as Procter and Gamble and Nestle, and enjoyed a cuppa. There was also a very interesting article spotted on the Managing Director's desk referring to Centreparc developments in Yorkshire!

When police eventually arrived one hour later they pointed out to Ken that no charges could be made for alleged libel as it was a civil matter. At this point Ken agreed to a meeting in early January. Actions will be continuing if necessary! For more details contact Leeds Earth First! on: 0113 262 9365.

BP PICKET

On December 10th, World Human Rights day, a picket was held outside the London headquarters of British Petroleum, Britain's number one company.

The picket was to highlight the ecological devastation caused by BP and their involvement with, and generous funding of, death-squads in Colombia. BP have handed over to the brutal military 16th Brigade, video and photographic evidence of trade unionists, environmentalists and peasant farmers who have dared to complain about the oil spillage's which have poisoned rivers, crops and livestock. Just days later these protesters have been beaten, tortured or been found murdered.

Police presence at the picket was fairly minimal but as usual they played a very active role in working with the corporate lackeys to thwart almost every attempt to hang banners from the building. Eventually, a huge blood spattered 'Bloody Petroleum' banner, aping BP's corporate logo was unfurled right across the front of the building much to the grey suited inhabitants annoyance. Another banner detailing the killings and BP's ecological damage in Colombia was hung between two trees directly opposite. In your face! The event was covered by Colombian news crews and there was a good turnout of Colombian exiles, many of whom were at risk of either being deported or being hit in this country by the death squads who have very long arms.

On the morning of the picket outside BP HQ there was an attempt to stop and lock onto a BP tanker as it crossed the Dartford Bridge in London. Although this was supposed to have been a well kept secret, the action was badly busted by the police immediately beforehand and therefore did not happen. It is not entirely clear how they knew but it shows again the need for security measures to be taken seriously on such actions.

For details of future actions against BP contact London Reclaim The Streets on: 0171 281 4621.

STATELY PROTEST

It was Sunday 5th January and nearly one hundred anti-opencast protesters gathered in the rolling snow-covered grounds of Chatsworth House in Derbyshire to visit the Duke of Devonshire.

Derbyshire has become one of the worst hit counties for open-cast destruction and the Duke is allowing private developers to destroy part of his land on the Chatsworth estate (although obviously not land within view of the house).

He was well prepared for the day and even seemed quite excited at receiving some visitors. He had the police wave people in past the 'closed to the public' signs and had his kitchen hands serve soup to the complaining peasants when they arrived at his stately mansion. His right hand man mingled politely, handing out written statements containing the Duke's comment on the proposed open-casting, and saying that His Grace would be out in a minute to meet us.

It was an unexpected welcome but before long 'no open-cast' flags and banners were out, and a PA was blasting out the sounds of a noisy open-cast mine at work. Three people found their way inside his residence and waved flags from the roof. The doddery old Duke emerged from his cotton wool world to hear the peasants concerns - he told them that he cared about the environment but that he believed in a need for coal and jobs and that decisions were in the hands of the planners who represent the public, not in his. It became easier to pity him than curse him for being an earth rapist.

The peasants left him to his castle and thought what a wonderful summer party venue Chatsworth House would be. For more information on this and future actions contact the Miners Support Group on: 0181 672 9698.

EVENTS

JANUARY

- 30 Meet 12 noon for a monthly protest at the Bangladesh High Commission, 28 Queens Gate, London SW7, to protest at tribal peoples oppression in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. Contact Survival International on: 0171 242 1441.
- 31 Blockade of Menwith Hill Spy Base call: 01943 468593.

FEBRUARY

- 1 National Day of Action Against Live Exports in Dover, Gilders etc. Contact: 01203 632873.
- 1-2 Faslane Peace Camp party and actions to welcome the birth of Spring. Contact: 01436 820901.
- 8 National Day of Action Against Hunting. Contact Hunt Saboteurs Association on: 01273 622827.
- 8 Street Party in Amsterdam. Contact London RTS for more details: 0171 281 4621.
- 14-16 First Anniversary of the Sea Empress disaster. Massive Direct Action to target the oil industry and Milford Haven Port Authority. Workshops, briefings, massive action and party. Contact Cardigan Bay EF! Details of the campsite will be released from February 12th. Call: 01749 812665.

- 17-19 'Reclaim the Valleys III - the saga continues' contact Reclaim The Valleys c/o Swansea Environment Centre: 0385 711364.

- 21 No M66 campaign action. Reclaim Daisy Nook! Anniversary of Daisy Nook camp eviction. Meet 11am at Daisy Nook Visitors Centre, Stannbrook Road. For more information call: 0161 344 0225.

- 21-23 Gathering at Menwith Women's Peace camp to learn more about the Menwith Hill Spy Base. Call: 01943 468593.

MARCH

- 14-17 Faslane Peace Camp Womens Actions. Bring tents, sleeping bags, boltcutters etc! For more details contact: 01706 812663.

APRIL

- 5-6 The Land is Ours Gathering, location yet to be announced. For more details contact: 01865 722016.

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WHATLEY QUARRY

A network of activists from around Somerset did an early morning shut down of Whatley Quarry on 14th December, blocking the gates all morning and preventing lorry movements. The quarry bosses were reduced to pleading with the forty or so activists to let the lorry drivers past through the gates to go home for the weekend. Actions at Whatley Quarry will continue, as every extra pound they lose makes destruction firm ARC's dire financial situation even worse and the likelihood of even more ecological devastation less of a possibility.

A number of people in the Somerset area have been arrested and have had equipment seized in connection with the railway tracks at Whatley Quarry that were sabotaged recently. An unknown number of people have been charged with conspiracy to cause criminal damage and endanger life.

For future action details against Whatley Quarry or other Somerset Network events Contact Avon Gorge Earth First! on: 01225 448556 or South Somerset Earth First! on: 01935 825074. Solidarity actions targeting ARC around the country would also be very nice.

WELLS RELIEF ROAD

On Friday 10th January the official opening of the £5.5 million Wells 'Relief' Road was disrupted by thirty people. The new road is six kilometres long and ploughs through woodland and small playing fields. It has been stated that Wells will need another bypass in ten years. John Watts, the Roads Minister, had been invited to open it but was jeered off the stage and didn't even get to cut the official opening ribbon as it was snatched away. From the stage he asked how many of the protesters were local. When it became clear that a large number were, one protester called out, "how many of you officials are?" They declined to comment and John beat a quick retreat back to London!

DTI ACTIONS

Since the occupation of East Timor, one third of the population has been murdered and countless others have suffered human rights abuses at the hands of the Indonesian government.

Thousands took part in the SOS week of action (2nd - 6th December) which called for a ban on arms to Indonesia. The week began with a multi-faith service followed by a procession from Westminster Cathedral to join the protesters outside the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) as the week long vigil began. It is here that licenses are signed for exporting weapons.

As part of an increasingly audible and growing campaign, the week was particularly successful in

focusing public outrage at the government's insistence on sending weapons to Suharto's repressive regime in Indonesia.

The week saw a series of actions including die-ins, a visit by a disarmed tank, Indonesian flag burning ceremonies staged by East Timorese as well as three separate interruptions during proceedings at the House of Commons. Protesters were delighted when they were applauded there by sympathetic MP's led by MP Cynog Dafis.

On December 9th, in defiance of public sentiment, the British Government announced that it had signed licenses for a further fifty Alvis tanks and more Tactica water cannons to Indonesia. For more information on the continuing campaign call CAAT on: 0171 281 0297.

IRISH DIGEST

When he heard the news, he got paint and cloth out and composed the banner. The message done he got in his car and drove into Limerick city and onto the Ennis Road in County Clare. Less than an hour after leaving his farm in East Limerick the man, whose herd of cows had been killed by toxic pollution, was stood outside the gates of Syntex's chemical factory in Clarecastle with a banner letting everyone who cared to know what he thought about the Irish Environmental Protection Agency. "How can you license these people when you don't even know what killed my cattle?"

"I was overwhelmed", said one person who has been fighting Syntex's plans to build a toxic waste incinerator for the best part of a year, "that a sixty year old man whose livelihood had been destroyed can do something like this. We got up there to join him along with a rake of children". That morning the EPA had turned down the community's appeal against the incinerator, effectively dismissing their fears about the health effects from toxic pollution. "We're being poisoned and the state doesn't care."

Contact Ballyhoura Talamh Glas: 00 353 62 48668.

A30 LATEST

On the morning of December 27th, under cover of darkness, Under Sheriff Mr Coleman and pals crept into Allercombe and cut walkways before Zaro the dog's 'Arruga' bark could be heard. There was little anyone could do with only five people on camp, most of Allercombe's regulars having taken advantage of Christmas to visit friends and families for the first time in months.

People in the treehouses awoke and barely had time to put on their boots before climbers were unwelcome guests in their homes. Tunnels were quickly trashed and the whole thing was over before breakfast. A sad end to what was considered by many to be the most beautiful of

anti-roadcamps.

On January 12th while people were away at Newbury, Mr Coleman struck again and this time it was Trollheim's turn. Bailiffs, tunnelling experts and police entered the camp at around 3am and took nine hours to evict everyone. People had been more prepared than they had hoped and it was a struggle to remove people from underground lock-on's described by Coleman as "some of the best my specialists have seen".

If by the time you read this Fairmile has not been evicted, have your bag packed and ready with warm bedding, eviction stash and whatever else you may need and be ready for the call out. If of course you can spare the time now then head down there right away. There is still fun to be had by all - even pixies and fairies! There are three compounds now on route.

The forces of darkness would never have the bottle to venture underground themselves and so they've recently recruited a scab pot-holer at £500 a day to assist in the eviction of eco-activists from defensive tunnels at Spiritual Roots at Newbury and the A30 camps. This person urgently needs to be identified so as to make their life not worth living in the caving community, apparently he is already very nervous about his identity being discovered. If anyone has a photo of said scumbag or if you have contacts with cavers/pot-holers please get in touch with both A30 Action on: 01404 815729 as well as the Third Battle of Newbury office on: 01635 45545.

MENWITH WOMEN'S PEACE CAMP

On the filthiest night of the year the Amazons could still not be deterred from confronting the National Security Agency (NSA) at Menwith Hill. Considering that the NSA has spent the last year tightening security on the base it must have come as a surprise to them to find two sections of chain link fence missing. In the last (Wo)menwith news they published a recipe to dismantle the 'pusher' system which is a very tasty part of Menwith's spying operations (these antennas form a high frequency directional finding system vital to the function of the base). The women are delighted to report that this recipe has proved so popular that it has driven Colonel G. Dickson Gribble Jr. (head spy) to reintroduce dogs to the site in a vain attempt to fend off prospective gourmets.

Meanwhile last years actions are still going through court processes, including eighteen women charged with illegally entering the base and three charged with £15,000 worth of criminal damage to radomes (okay golf balls) by writing anti-war slogans on them. There are lots of upcoming events and women are always welcome to turn up at the camp. For more information call Menwith Women's Peace Camp on: 01943 468593.

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A small caprellid shrimp among the algae of a rocky shore